

Remarks

Currently claims 1 and 11 are generic. Applicants have been required to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims will be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner has asserted that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Species 1 as shown in Figure 1;

Species 2 as shown in Figure 2;

Species 3 as shown in Figure 3; and

Species 4 as shown in Figure 4.

In response to the election of species requirement, Applicants elect Species 3, as shown in Figure 3, for prosecution by way of the present application if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. It is believed that claims 1-3, 7-13, and 17-20 read on the elected species.


The election of species requirement is **traversed**, and has been made merely to expedite the prosecution of the present application. Applicants also specifically reserve the right to seek patent protection for non-elected subject matter by divisional application.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's restriction requirement is in error because the field of search for the configurations of the claimed invention would be co-extensive. The claims are so interrelated that it would be in the public interest to prosecute all claims in the same application. The election of claims has been made merely to expedite the prosecution of the present application.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2435.

Respectfully submitted,

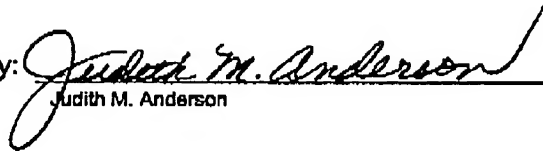
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I, Judith M. Anderson, hereby certify that on August 17, 2004 this document is being facsimile transmitted to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By:



Judith M. Anderson